Blood samples of the Bhopal Gas Victims

5830. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that blood samples of victims of Bhopal gas leak disaster have got destroyed, as reported in the 'Indian Express' of August 30, 1993;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the destruction of these blood samples the crucial evidence against Carbide has been lost; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, a power failure took place in January, 1985 in one of the 3 Deep Freezers, where some blood tissues were kept. These tissues get decomposed. There will, however, be no adverse impact on the victims of Bhopal Gas Disaster in respect of clinical and legal aspects, as the other tissues kept in formalin and other freezers, and blood samples, are safe and are still well preserved.

Growth of Petrochemical Industry

5831. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTLIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether high priority is being accorded by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers for the growth of petrochemical industry;

(b) whether any long terms plan has drawn up thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Yes, the Government is giving high priority to the growth of petrochemical industry in the country. The per capita consumption of major petrochemicals mainly plastics and synthetic fibres is low as compared to the world average for these products. Major reforms have been undertaken from 1991 in the areas of Trade Policy, Industrial Policy and Fiscal policy. Customs policy to duty rates of most products have been reduced and are likely to be brought down further by 1996-97 to make the industry more competitive. Except for a brief list of hazardous chemicals, all petrochemical items can be manufactured without requiring any industrial licencing controls.

Subsidy to a SSP manufacturer on bogus sales

5832. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Revenue Department have unearthed a case where a single super phosphate (SSP) manufacturer has claimed huge amount of subsidy on the basis of bogus sales, as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 10th April, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the facts of the case;

(c) how do the Department satisfy themselves about the correctness of the figures of sales before releasing the subsidy amount;

(d) how many such cases were detected by the Department during the last three years and what was the amount involved; and

(e) what steps have been taken by the Department or propose to take to

ensure that false claims of subsidy amounts are checked and detected in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the News item referred to. Facts are being ascertained.

(c) to (e) Subsidy on controlled fertilizers under the Retention-cum-Subsidy Scheme is paid on the basis of the quantity of fertilizer despatched from the factory premises and not on the basic of quantity sold. The despatched quantity is certified by the Chief Executive or the Head of the Finance Wing of the company on a monthly basis. Besides, inspection of various units is also undertaken to verify and cross check the data/documents submitted by the units.

Production of industrial spirit

5833. SHRI TULASIDAS MAJJ:
DR. RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the production of industrial Spirit in India for the last three years;

(b) what is the total import of industrial spirit in quantity and value in the last three years; and

(c) what is the policy of Government with respect to industrial spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The production of alcohol during the Alcohol Year (Dec.—Nov.) 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (estimated) has been as follows):—

Alcohol Year (Dec.—Nov.)	Production of Alcohol (in lakh Litres)
1990-91 . . .	10149
1991-92 . . .	10157
1992-93 . . . (Estimated)	11396

(b) The total import of Ethyl Alcohol and other spirits, denatured of any strength and undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80 per cent or higher during the last three years was about 1.04 lakh litres of the value of Rs. 55.94 lakhs.

(c) The Industrial Alcohol has been delicenced and can be manufactured by any Enterpreneure without an Industrial Licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

उर्वरकों के स्वदेशी उत्पादन को बढ़ाने हेतु रियायतें

5834. **श्री विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा :** क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने वर्ष 1993–94 में देश में उर्वरकों के स्वदेशी उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने हेतु, विभिन्न प्रकार की रियायतों की घोषणा की थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि वर्ष 1993–94 में स्वदेशी उर्वरकों के उत्पादन की मात्रा वर्ष 1992-93 की मात्रा की तुलना में अधिक नहीं थी,

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है ;

(घ) वर्ष 1993-94 में देश में उर्वरकों की कितनी मात्रा का उपयोग होने का अनुमान है;